relating to credit, infrastructural development technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, assistance for procurement preference to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in purchases by the Government, providing institutional assistance for curtailing endemic problem of delayed payments of MSEs, etc. These schemes are for overall development of the MSE Sector and are implemented across the board all over the country. Nevertheless, wherever feasible, the Government makes specific allocations and assigns specific targets for assisting the disadvantaged groups of society, notably those belonging to Minority communities. Government of India does not maintain the number of beneficiaries for certain Schemes State-wise since the schemes are demand driven and are not based on State-wise allocation of resources. The people belonging to Minority Community including Muslims in Uttar Pradesh, are benefited under some of these schemes.

Under the scheme of Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme/ Entrepreneurship Development Programme/ Management Development Programme 5028 persons belonging to the minority communities were trained during 2007-08 out of which 1422 candidates were trained in Uttar Pradesh. This data was not maintained prior to 2007-08.

Under the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme 1419 entrepreneurs belonging to minority communities were benefited during the year 2007-08 out of which 148 were from Uttar Pradesh. This data was not maintained prior to 2007-08.

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Budgetary provision (Rs. in lakh)	
		2007-08	2008-09
1	Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme / Entrepreneurship Development Programme	50.00	No specific allocation but Rs. 50.00 are likely to be spent
2	Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme / Augmentation of Portfolio Risk Fund under MFP	50.00	The contribution of GOI is provided towards the corpus credit under the scheme.

Hyderabad Metro Rail Project

887. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Finance Minister has agreed to provide Rs. 2000 crore for the Hyderabad Metro Rail Project which is estimated to cost Rs. 10,000 crores;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has recommended viability gap funding for this public private partnership project and it was under consideration of his Ministry; and

(c) if so, by when final decision of providing assistance to this project has been considered and what is the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The information pertains to Ministry of Finance. The information has been obtained from Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, which is as follows: 'The proposal of Government of Andhra Pradesh for Hyderabad Metro Rail (MRTS) project was granted in principle approval for grant of Viability Gap Funding of Rs. 2362.88 crore for a total project cost of Rs. 11,814 crore under the

Scheme for Financial Support to PPPs in Infrastructure on 30.7.2008. The Financial Bid was opened by Government of Andhra Pradesh and the lowest bidder offered payments during different stages of Concession Period and did not seek any Grant. There would be a negative grant on the project cost and the project is not entitled to the VGF support. Government of Andhra Pradesh awarded the project to lowest bidder'.

Pending new railway line projects in Karnataka

888. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for new railway lines submitted by the Government of Karnataka to his Ministry still pending for consideration; and

(b) the present status of each project and by when each project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Details of the new line projects proposed by the Government of Karnataka in the past and status thereon is as under :–

Sl.No.	Proposal	Status
1.	Extension of rail line from Talguppa to Honavar	Survey taken up
2.	Krishnaraja Nagar- Kushal Nagar new line	Survey taken up
3.	Shahabad-Bagalkot-Kudachi new line	On this alignment area, surveys for Shahabad-Bijapur and Bagalkot-Kudachi new lines already taken up. Survey for Bagalkot-Kudachi new line completed

There is no time-frame fixed for clearance of each proposal for which survey has been taken up.

Modernization of Khurda Road Station

889. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to modernize Khurda Road Station an important junction at Jatni on ECoR system;

(b) if so, the status of the project; and

(c) what is the time-frame within which all the rail works on this station would be completed to ease constraints of train operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has identified Khurda Road station for modernization under various schemes. Details of works already completed and also those planned for completion during the years 2008 to 2010 are as under: